



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

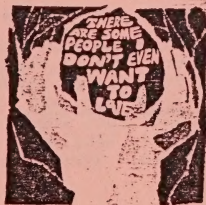
(205) 476-9142

Pastor

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen."
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

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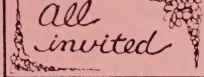
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The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

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SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

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August 12Dependency/Independence
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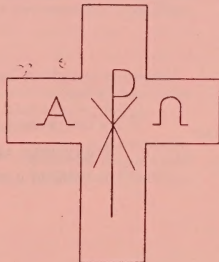
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PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FRED A SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC*SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

**Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You**



**Metropolitan
Community Church**

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIA AND GAY RIGHTS - OCTOBER 11, 1987

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIA AND GAY RIGHTS

Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

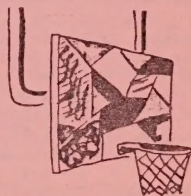


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32501-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball,
on the sudden popularity of Room 538,
where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter,
painter/cartoonist/staffer
on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush,
in response to a question about what criteria he might
use in selecting a running mate for his 1988
presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker,
unseated from his ministry after
it was revealed that he had had sex with
Jessica Hahn, his secretary,
and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHÉES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells

1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
3 tablespoons instantized flour
1 cup cold milk or skim milk
2 tablespoons butter
2 teaspoons sherry
1 teaspoon brandy
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
1 teaspoon prepared mustard
salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietician from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
- August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
- August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."

Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00 CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE
SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

CHURCHES

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

NIGHT CLUBS

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



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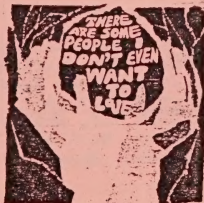
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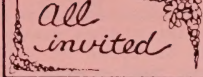
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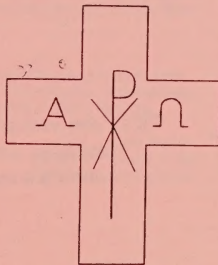
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Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

**Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You**



**Metropolitan
Community Church**

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

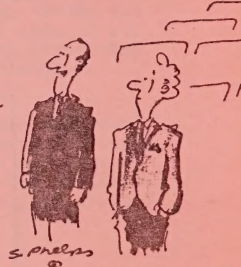
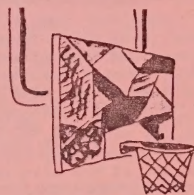
Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.



Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved
If you're the member of an organization... begin planning now for your busloads
Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
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32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



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AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

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Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	141
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	135
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	109
Dallas	680	Tennessee	91
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	81
Newark	891	Kentucky	78
Jersey City	435	Rhode Island	77
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	63
Illinois	977	Utah	61
Chicago	873	Arkansas	58
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	49
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	48
Boston	592	Mississippi	45
Georgia	769	Maine	31
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	28
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	27
Maryland	566	Alaska	13
Washington	455	Vermont	10
Seattle	359	Idaho	8
Connecticut	439	Montana	7
Louisiana	438	Virgin Islands	7
New Orleans	320	Wyoming	5
Virginia	429	North Dakota	5
Colorado	422	South Dakota	5
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"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

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Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHEES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells

1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails

3 tablespoons instantized flour

1 cup cold milk or skim milk

2 tablespoons butter

2 teaspoons sherry

1 teaspoon brandy

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon lemon juice

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon anchovy paste

1 teaspoon prepared mustard

salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters

1 pint sour cream

1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder

1 teaspoon minced chives

2 teaspoons lemon juice

4 dashes Tabasco sauce

salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietician from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-Monday)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
- August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
- August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."

Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00 CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

C H U R C H E S

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E G R O U P S

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

N I G H T C L U B S

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church
AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

(205) 476-9142

Pastor

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love.
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

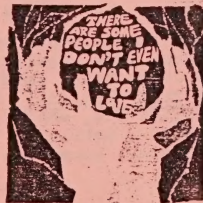
I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying.
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying.
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!



FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

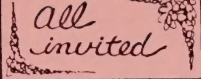
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Milner, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1600 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5Preparing for Shared Living
August 12Dependency/Independence
August 19Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2Homophobia
September 9Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23Creative Aging
September 30Gays and the Law
October 7Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

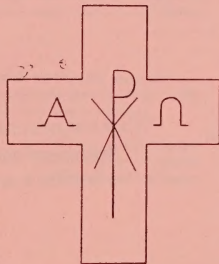
Rev. Marge Ragons, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4What is the Bible?
August 11Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
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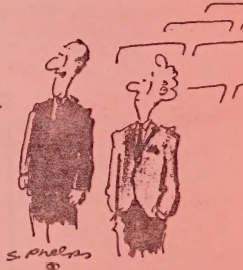
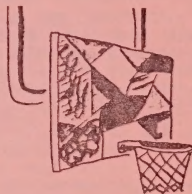


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Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	435	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	605	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
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- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

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B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

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MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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C H U R C H E S

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6345 Old Shell Road	
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Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E G R O U P S

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

N I G H T C L U B S

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GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
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SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
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CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

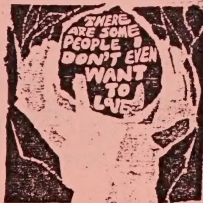
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day.
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

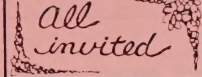
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missiles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1600 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever.... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5	Preparing for Shared Living
August 12	Dependency/Independence
August 19	Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26	Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2	Homophobia
September 9	Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16	How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23	Creative Aging
September 30	Gays and the Law
October 7	Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

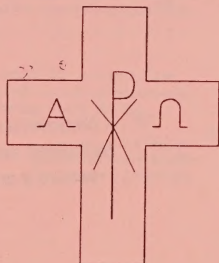
Rev. Marge Ragana, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4	What is the Bible?
August 11	Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18	The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25	The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
September 1	Contra Natura and Natural Law
September 8	Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FRED A SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Fred A. Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

**Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You**



**Metropolitan
Community Church**

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

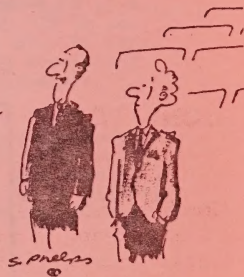
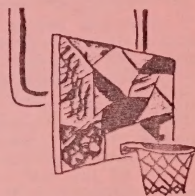
Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.



Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved
If you're the member of an
organization...begin planning now for
your busloads
Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Fl. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1179	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	690	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Printer, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHÉES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells

- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

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THE ALTERNATIVE	
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Mobile, Alabama 36660	
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c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

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7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



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1600 Center Street,

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Rev. MARGE RAGONA

(205) 476-9142

Pastor

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I have trouble loving myself sometimes.

Other people are different

Or disgusting

Or dull

Or dirty.

And I hate dirty people.

They make me sick.

There are some people I don't even want to love

Or like

Or help

Or understand

Or go through the agony of forgiving.

They do things to annoy me.

Or they get on my nerves and gall me

Till they make me mad.

Others are really enemies.

Do You understand, God, my enemies?

How can I love people the way that You demand,

Giving myself at their expense,

Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?

It's impossible.

And yet You say that people who do not love

Do not know God.

Don't I know You, God?

I want to know You.

If You can love me all the way,

If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,

If You can give Yourself to die for me,

Yes, if You can love like that,

You must be God, I think.

But I can't see You,

And I can't love,

And I can't seem to find the new day.

The new age when love is all victorious,

When all men know the Lord

Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.

Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,

A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and

Of community concern for others,

For the ugly and the idiot,

But I know the sham I have created,

And so do You.

You tell me all that Christ has done.

You say, "Look, there is love."

I see and say, "Amen,"

But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,

Help me.

I need another step,

I need a lift,

I need a power,

I need something more

Than this image of perfect suffering,

Of Christ the love of God

Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.

I need some love power driving me,

Driving me to love,

To forgive

And forgive

And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?

Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved

Show me that power now to love the loveless

And the dying,

To forgive the unforgivable

And the lying,

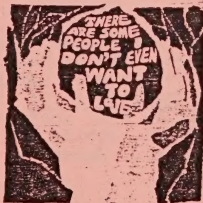
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,

And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!

For Christ's sake!



FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

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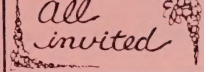
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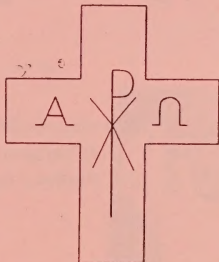
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1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

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A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

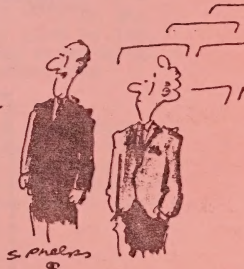
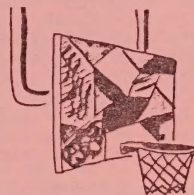


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**NW FLA Gay
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PO Box 13364
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"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

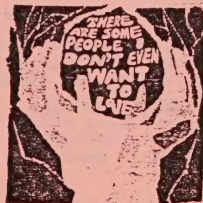
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
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I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
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For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
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And make me over again.

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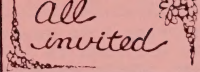
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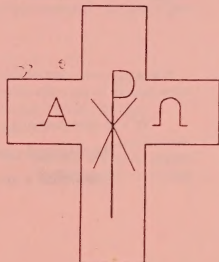
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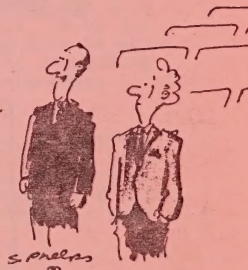
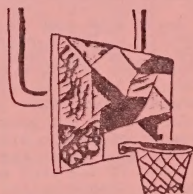


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37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	315
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball,
on the sudden popularity of Room 538,
where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter,
painter/carnivorous staffer
on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush.
in response to a question about what criteria he might
use in selecting a running mate for his 1988
presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker,
unsentenced from his ministry after
it was revealed that he had had sex with
Jessica Hahn, his secretary,
and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHEES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells

- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon lemon juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietitian from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
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P. O. Box 8342	
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P. O. Box 55913	
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Washington, D.C. 20009	
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40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
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Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2357	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	29
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
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Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

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- 24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells
1 9-ox. pkg. frozen lobster tails
3 tablespoons instantized flour
1 cup cold milk or skim milk
2 tablespoons butter
2 teaspoons sherry
1 teaspoon brandy
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
1 teaspoon prepared mustard
salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietitian from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
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New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

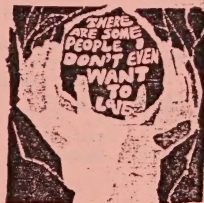
I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!



FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

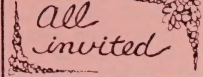
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missiles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1600 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever.... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5Preparing for Shared Living
August 12Dependency/Independence
August 19Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2Homophobia
September 9Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23Creative Aging
September 30Gays and the Law
October 7Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

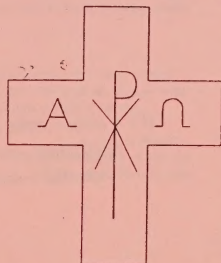
Rev. Marge Ragons, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4What is the Bible?
August 11Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
September 1Contra Natura and Natural Law
September 8Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FREDA SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic Woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

**Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You**



**Metropolitan
Community Church**

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

- The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships
- The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime
- A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government
- Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill
- An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care.
Money for AIDS not for War.

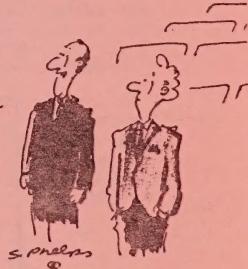
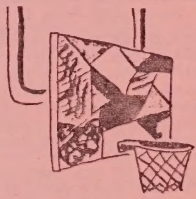
Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.



Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved
If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busload
Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32501-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

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Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
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Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
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lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

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1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

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BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietician from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

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COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

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CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

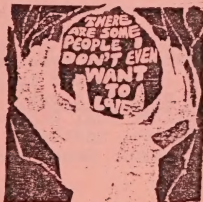
(205) 476-9142

Pastor

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

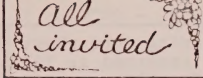
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missiles to: George D. Milner, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1600 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever.... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5	Preparing for Shared Living
August 12	Dependency/Independence
August 19	Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26	Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2	Homophobia
September 9	Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16	How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23	Creative Aging
September 30	Gays and the Law
October 7	Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

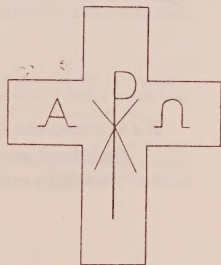
Rev. Marge Ragone, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4	What is the Bible?
August 11	Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18	The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25	The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
September 1	Contra Natura and Natural Law
September 8	Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FRED A SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You



Metropolitan
Community Church

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCG at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

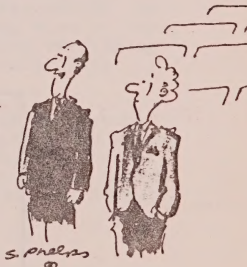
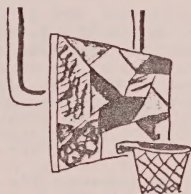


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32501-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter, paintercartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHEES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells

- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

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CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

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1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



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That You are asking me to do the impossible.

At least, it's impossible for me.

I can't love other people all the time.

I have trouble loving myself sometimes.

Other people are different

Or disgusting

Or dull

Or dirty.

And I hate dirty people.

They make me sick.

There are some people I don't even want to love

Or like

Or help

Or understand

Or go through the agony of forgiving.

They do things to annoy me.

Or they get on my nerves and gall me

Till they make me mad.

Others are really enemies.

Do You understand, God, my enemies?

How can I love people the way that You demand,

Giving myself at their expense,

Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?

It's impossible.

And yet You say that people who do not love

Do not know God.

Don't I know You, God?

I want to know You.

If You can love me all the way,

If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,

If You can give Yourself to die for me,

Yes, if You can love like that,

You must be God, I think.

But I can't see You,

And I can't love,

And I can't seem to find the new day.

The new age when love is all victorious,

When all men know the Lord

Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.

Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,

A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and

Of community concern for others,

For the ugly and the idiot,

But I know the sham I have created,

And so do You.

You tell me all that Christ has done.

You say, "Look, there is love."

I see and say, "Amen,"

But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,

Help me.

I need another step,

I need a lift,

I need a power,

I need something more

Than this image of perfect suffering.

Of Christ the love of God

Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.

I need some love power driving me,

Driving me to love,

To forgive

And forgive

And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?

Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved

Show me that power now to love the loveless

And the dying,

To forgive the unforgivable

And the lying,

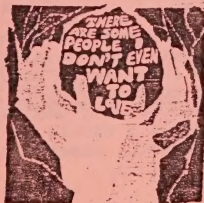
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,

And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!

For Christ's sake!



FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

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The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

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37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
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San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	77
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	73
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHÉES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells

- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon lemon juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

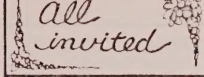
BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietician from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69
EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M. ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS \$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE MOBILE AIDS FUND				

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5Preparing for Shared Living
 August 12Dependency/Independence
 August 19Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
 August 26Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
 September 2Homophobia
 September 9Improving Your Partner Selection
 September 16How To Confront Anger Successfully
 September 23Creative Aging
 September 30Gays and the Law
 October 7Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
 * call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

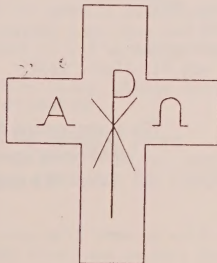
Rev. Marge Ragona, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4What is the Bible?
 August 11Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
 August 18The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
 August 25The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
 September 1Contra Natura and Natural Law
 September 8Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FREDA SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic Woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

**Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
 On You**



**Metropolitan
 Community Church**

1600 CENTER STREET
 MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

**Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a**

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

**Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987**

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

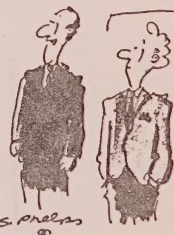
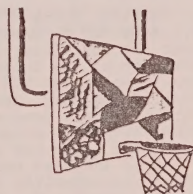
Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.



Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved
If you're the member of an
organization...begin planning now for
your busload.
Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)**



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

FRIDAY
FRIENDS
TO
MCC
NEXT
SUNDAY
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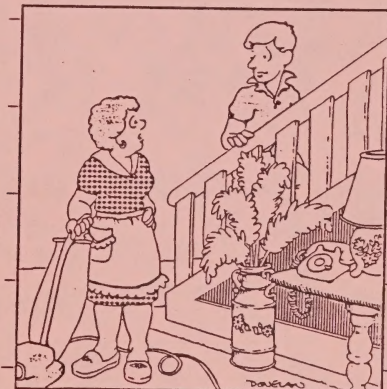
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The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY
VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE
A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH
OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE
SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

C H U R C H E S

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E G R O U P S

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

N I G H T C L U B S

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

(205) 476-9142

Pastor

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
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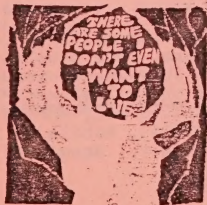
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Texas	2367	Oklahoma	135
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	690	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
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2 tablespoons butter

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1 pint sour cream

1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder

1 teaspoon minced chives

2 teaspoons lemon juice

4 dashes Tabasco sauce

salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

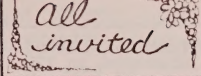
When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietitian from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5	Preparing for Shared Living
August 12	Dependency/Independence
August 19	Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26	Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2	Homophobia
September 9	Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16	How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23	Creative Aging
September 30	Gays and the Law
October 7	Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

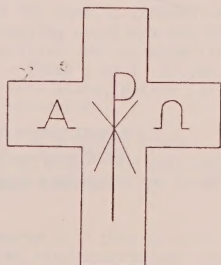
Rev. Marge Ragons, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4	What is the Bible?
August 11	Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18	The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25	The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
September 1	Contra Nature and Natural Law
September 8	Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FREDA SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC/SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic Woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You



Metropolitan
Community Church

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

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**Washington, D.C.
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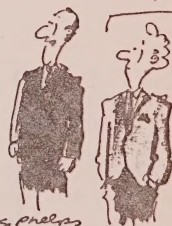
Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.



Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved
If you're the member of an
organization...begin planning now for
your busloads
Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee**
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

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TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

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Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

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MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

NIGHT CLUBS

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215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
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CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



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AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

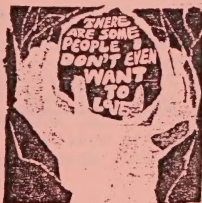
(205) 476-9142

Pastor

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day.
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missiles to: George D. Milner, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1600 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever.... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3245	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	141
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	135
Houston	1173	Wisconsin	109
Dallas	680	Tennessee	91
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	81
Newark	891	Kentucky	78
Jersey City	435	Rhode Island	77
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	63
Illinois	977	Utah	61
Chicago	873	Arkansas	58
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	49
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	48
Boston	592	Mississippi	45
Georgia	769	Maine	31
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	28
Maryland	566	Alaska	27
Washington	455	West Virginia	13
Seattle	359	Vermont	10
Connecticut	439	Idaho	8
Louisiana	438	Montana	7
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	5
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	1
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball,

on the sudden popularity of Room 538,

where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Peg-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter,
painter/carnoust staffer
on Peg-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush,
in response to a question about what criteria he might
use in selecting a running mate for his 1988
presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker,
unseated from his ministry after
it was revealed that he had had sex with
Jessica Hahn, his secretary,
and subsequently paid her blackmail

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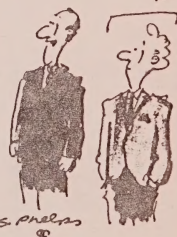
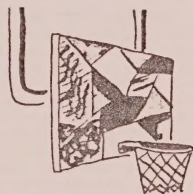


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CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

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P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

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Do not know God.

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If You can love me all the way,

If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,

If You can give Yourself to die for me,

Yes, if You can love like that,

You must be God, I think.

But I can't see You,

And I can't love,

And I can't seem to find the new day,

The new age when love is all victorious,

When all men know the Lord

Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.

Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,

A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and

Of community concern for others,

For the ugly and the idiot,

But I know the sham I have created,

And so do You.

You tell me all that Christ has done.

You say, "Look, there is love."

I see and say, "Amen,"

But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,

Help me.

I need another step,

I need a lift,

I need a power,

I need something more

Than this image of perfect suffering,

Of Christ the love of God

Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.

I need some love power driving me,

Driving me to love,

To forgive

And forgive

And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?

Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved

Show me that power now to love the loveless

And the dying,

To forgive the unforgivable

And the lying,

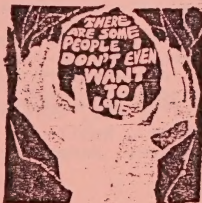
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,

And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!

For Christ's sake!



FOR CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

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I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

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37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are
dead.

When asked, "why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"I sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

*Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball,
on the sudden popularity of Room 538,
where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn*

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

*Garry Painter,
painter/cartoonist staffer
on Pee-wee's Playhouse*

"I haven't chosen her yet."

*Vice President George Bush,
in response to a question about what criteria he might
use in selecting a running mate for his 1988
presidential campaign*

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

*Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker,
unseated from his ministry after
it was revealed that he had had sex with
Jessica Hahn, his secretary,
and subsequently paid her blackmail*

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHÉES

- 24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size patty shells
- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon lemon juice
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon anchovy paste
- 2 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

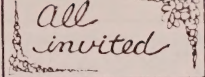
When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietician from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.



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TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

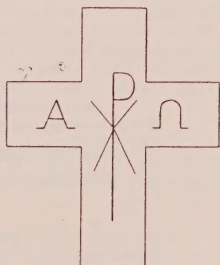
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Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You



Metropolitan
Community Church

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

**Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a**

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

**Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987**

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

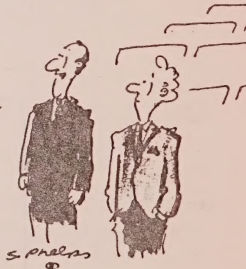
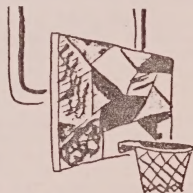


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an
organization...begin planning now for
your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)**



*"It's a compromise between those who wanted a
traditional sanctuary and those who
wanted a multi-purpose facility."*

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
- August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
- August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."

Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00 CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

C H U R C H E S

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E G R O U P S

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

N I G H T C L U B S

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

(205) 476-9142

Pastor

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,

I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.

I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.

Other people are different
Or disgusting

Or dull

Or dirty.

And I hate dirty people.

They make me sick.

There are some people I don't even want to love

Or like

Or help

Or understand

Or go through the agony of forgiving.

They do things to annoy me.

Or they get on my nerves and gall me

Till they make me mad.

Others are really enemies.

Do You understand, God, my enemies?

How can I love people the way that You demand,

Giving myself at their expense,

Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?

It's impossible.

And yet You say that people who do not love

Do not know God.

Don't I know You, God?

I want to know You.

If You can love me all the way,

If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,

If You can give Yourself to die for me,

Yes, if You can love like that,

You must be God, I think.

But I can't see You,

And I can't love,

And I can't seem to find the new day.

The new age when love is all victorious,

When all men know the Lord

Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.

Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,

A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and

Of community concern for others,

For the ugly and the idiot,

But I know the sham I have created,

And so do You.

You tell me all that Christ has done.

You say, "Look, there is love."

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But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,

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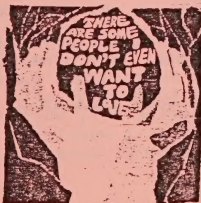
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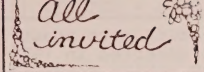
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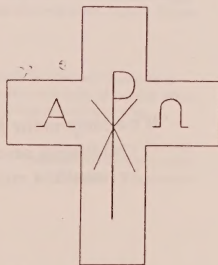
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**Washington, D.C.
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IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

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The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care.

Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

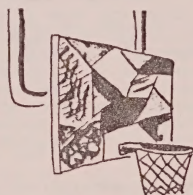


Imagine yourself there...
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If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
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PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32501-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
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San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
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Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

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3 tablespoons instantized flour
1 cup cold milk or skim milk
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1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
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lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietitian from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-Monday)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
- August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
- August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."

Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00
CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT
YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE
SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

CHURCHES

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

NIGHT CLUBS

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

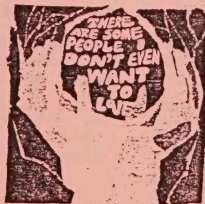
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen."
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

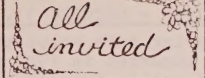
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state discrimination against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1161 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850441, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5	Preparing for Shared Living
August 12	Dependency/Independence
August 19	Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26	Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2	Homophobia
September 9	Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16	How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23	Creative Aging
September 30	Gays and the Law
October 7	Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

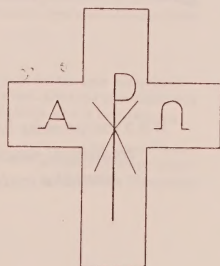
Rev. Marge Ragons, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4	What is the Bible?
August 11	Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18	The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25	The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
September 1	Contra Natura and Natural Law
September 8	Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FREDA SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic Woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

**Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You**



**Metropolitan
Community Church**

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MOBILE, ALABAMA

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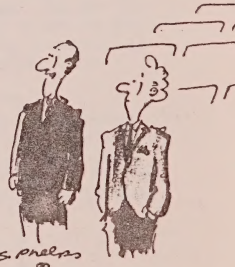
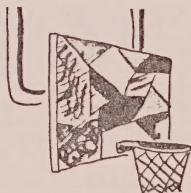


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Newark	881	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
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- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
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- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- 1 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

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ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

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CORRAL	433-9258
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REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

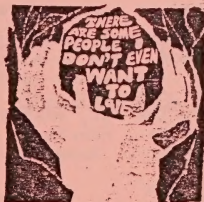
(205) 476-9142

Pastor

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

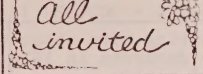
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1600 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever.... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5	Preparing for Shared Living
August 12	Dependency/Interdependence
August 19	Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26	Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2	Homophobia
September 9	Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16	How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23	Creative Aging
September 30	Gays and the Law
October 7	Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

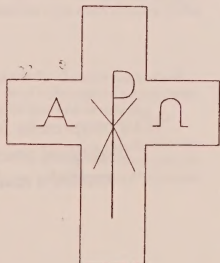
Rev. Marge Ragone, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4	What is the Bible?
August 11	Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18	The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25	The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
September 1	Contra Natura and Natural Law
September 8	Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FRED A SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You



Metropolitan
Community Church

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

**Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a**

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

**Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987**

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

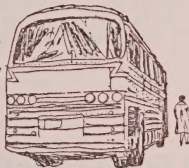
Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care.
Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

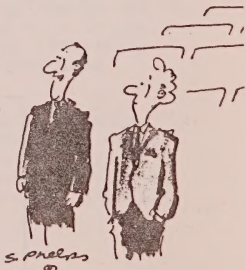
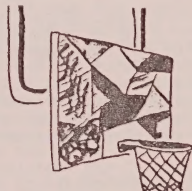


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)**



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHERES

- 24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size patty shells
- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1 teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

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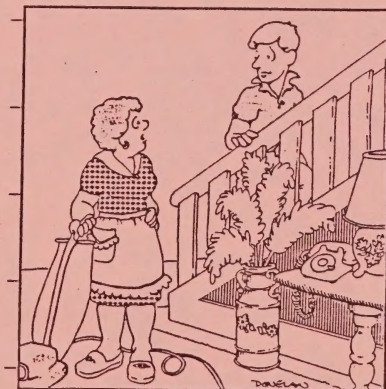
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C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E G R O U P S

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THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
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AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

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SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

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1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



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1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

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That You are asking me to do the impossible.

At least, it's impossible for me.

I can't love other people all the time.

I have trouble loving myself sometimes.

Other people are different

Or disgusting

Or dull

Or dirty.

And I hate dirty people.

They make me sick.

There are some people I don't even want to love

Or like

Or help

Or understand

Or go through the agony of forgiving.

They do things to annoy me.

Or they get on my nerves and gall me

Till they make me mad.

Others are really enemies.

Do You understand, God, my enemies?

How can I love people the way that You demand,

Giving myself at their expense,

Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?

It's impossible.

And yet You say that people who do not love

Do not know God.

Don't I know You, God?

I want to know You.

If You can love me all the way,

If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,

If You can give Yourself to die for me,

Yes, if You can love like that,

You must be God, I think.

But I can't see You,

And I can't love,

And I can't seem to find the new day,

The new age when love is all victorious,

When all men know the Lord

Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.

Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,

A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and

Of community concern for others,

For the ugly and the idiot,

But I know the sham I have created,

And so do You.

You tell me all that Christ has done.

You say, "Look, there is love."

I see and say, "Amen,"

But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,

Help me.

I need another step,

I need a lift,

I need a power,

I need something more

Than this image of perfect suffering,

Of Christ the love of God

Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.

I need some love power driving me,

Driving me to love,

To forgive

And forgive

And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?

Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved

Show me that power now to love the loveless

And the dying,

To forgive the unforgivable

And the lying,

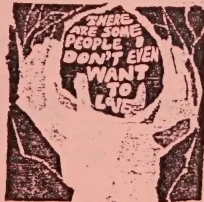
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,

And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!

For Christ's sake!



FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

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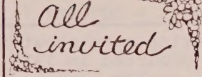
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I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

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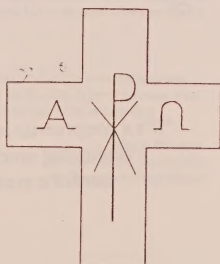
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Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
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Metropolitan
Community Church

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

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The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The two cities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

**Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a**

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

**Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987**

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care.
Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

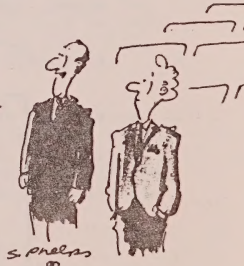


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Puntier, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHÉES

- 24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size patty shells
- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietician from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
- August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
- August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."

Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00
CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT
YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE
SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

CHURCHES

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

NIGHT CLUBS

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

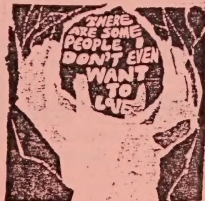
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
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And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
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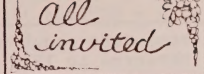
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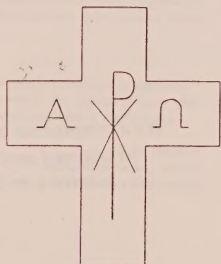
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**Let's meet
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NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

**Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987**

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

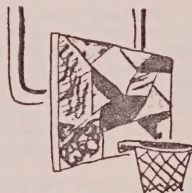
Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.



Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved
If you're the member of an
organization...begin planning now for
your busloads
Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)**



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37,019 and counting...
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as of June 15, 1987

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Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
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Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

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"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

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- 24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
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1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
3 tablespoons instantized flour
1 cup cold milk or skim milk
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2 teaspoons sherry
1 teaspoon brandy
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
1 teaspoon prepared mustard
salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietician from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
- August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
- August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."

Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00
CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT
YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE
SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

C H U R C H E S

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E G R O U P S

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

N I G H T C L U B S

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

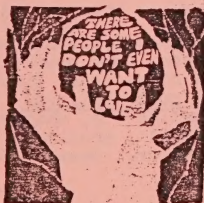
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day.
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

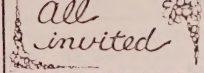
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missiles to: George D. Miller, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

MOBILE is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1100 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever.... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5	Preparing for Shared Living
August 12	Dependency/Independence
August 19	Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
August 26	Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
September 2	Homophobia
September 9	Improving Your Partner Selection
September 16	How To Confront Anger Successfully
September 23	Creative Aging
September 30	Gays and the Law
October 7	Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
* call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

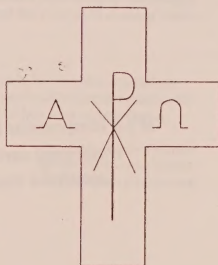
Rev. Marge Ragana, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4	What is the Bible?
August 11	Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
August 18	The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
August 25	The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
September 1	Contra Natura and Natural Law
September 8	Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FRED A SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Fred A. Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You



Metropolitan
Community Church

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

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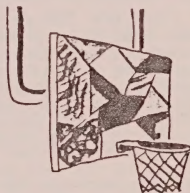


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1 teaspoon brandy
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salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
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1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
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Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

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\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
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WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
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TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

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SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

C H U R C H E S

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

C O M M U N I T Y S E R V I C E G R O U P S

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

N I G H T C L U B S

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

R E G I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

N A T I O N A L O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,

I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.

At least, it's impossible for me.

I can't love other people all the time.

I have trouble loving myself sometimes.

Other people are different

Or disgusting

Or dull

Or dirty.

And I hate dirty people.

They make me sick.

There are some people I don't even want to love

Or like

Or help

Or understand

Or go through the agony of forgiving.

They do things to annoy me.

Or they get on my nerves and gall me

Till they make me mad.

Others are really enemies.

Do You understand, God, my enemies?

How can I love people the way that You demand,

Giving myself at their expense,

Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?

It's impossible.

And yet You say that people who do not love

Do not know God.

Don't I know You, God?

I want to know You.

If You can love me all the way,

If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,

If You can give Yourself to die for me,

Yes, if You can love like that,

You must be God, I think.

But I can't see You,

And I can't love,

And I can't seem to find the new day,

The new age when love is all victorious,

When all men know the Lord

Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.

Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.

I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

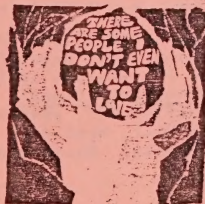
I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!



FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court ruled that the San Francisco-based organization which runs an event previously known as the "Gay Olympics" cannot legally use the word "olympic." If you are not familiar with the organization, let me tell you that it is a large, privately-funded group of Gay athletes and other Gay men and women who participate in athletic events, not unlike the other Olympic-oriented groups. Every two years, a huge event similar to the event held every four years in different locations around the world, is held in San Francisco. The participants train for the event and come from all 50 states and many foreign countries.

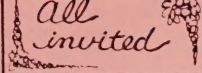
The conduct of the U. S. Olympic Committee regarding athletes who happen to be gay is appalling; the committee has gone out of its way to state its prejudice against Gay athletes. But its lawsuit to prevent the Gay Games in San Francisco from using the word "olympics" is nothing less than outright persecution. I constantly see the word "olympics" used for all sorts of sporting events -- the Handicapped Olympics, the Special Olympics, even the Bass Fishing Olympic Tournament right here in Alabama -- and I'm sure the sponsors didn't even need to ask permission to use the word "olympic." Yet, when Gay athletes wanted to use the word, all the talk of encouraging healthy competition disappeared. The U. S. Olympic Committee not only sought to prevent the use of the word, they actively and aggressively set out to bankrupt the Gay Games!

The fund raising letter I received starts off by saying, "Somewhere in a lonely field in Kansas, a 15-year-old jumps as far as he can. Is he the next Carl Lewis?" Well, he may be a good jumper but he may also be Gay. And folks like those on the U. S. Olympic Committee are doing everything within their power to prevent him from developing into a world-class athlete -- just because he's Gay!

I encourage each of you to voice your complaint against this outrageous display of homophobia. All you have to do is sit down, write a few words, and send it off... kind of like writing to your Congressman, and more of us need to do that, too. Send your pointed missles to: George D. Milner, United States Olympic Committee, Olympic House, 1750 East Boulder Street, Colorado Springs, Colorado, 80909.

* * * * *

This is the official organ of the Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile, 1600 Center Street, Mobile, Alabama. The newsletter is published monthly except for combined May-June and July-August issues, and occasional special issues. We welcome your contributions! Send us your news items, your special recipes, your classified ads, whatever... by the 20th of each month to: Ron, P. O. Box 850141, Mobile AL 36685. Include your name, address and/or telephone number. Names can be withheld from any material submitted, if you wish.



SCHEDULE OF TOPICS FOR WEDNESDAY RAP GROUP

August 5Preparing for Shared Living
 August 12Dependency/Independence
 August 19Self-Acceptance and Self-Esteem
 August 26Changing Lifestyles in Mid-life
 September 2Homophobia
 September 9Improving Your Partner Selection
 September 16How To Confront Anger Successfully
 September 23Creative Aging
 September 30Gays and the Law
 October 7Open Topics

* Wednesday Night Rap Group meets at 7:30 P.M. Please *
 * call 476-9142 for the location. *

TUESDAY NIGHT SERIES SPONSORED BY MCC TO FOCUS ON RAISING CONSCIOUSNESS

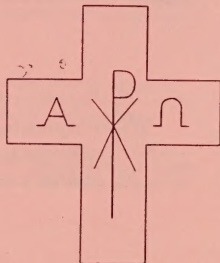
Rev. Marge Ragana, MCC at Mobile, will be conducting a six-part series focusing on raising consciousness, "Homosexuality and the Bible." The series begins August 4 at 7:30 P.M., in the MCC facility at 1600 Center Street, Mobile.

August 4What is the Bible?
 August 11Modern Scholarship/Textual and Other Higher Learning
 August 18The Big Eight - Old Testament Scripture
 August 25The Big Eight - New Testament Scripture
 September 1Contra Natura and Natural Law
 September 8Not By Works/By Grace

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, MCC HOSTS REV. FRED SMITH IN JULY 12 MCC SERVICE

Rev. Lee J. Carlton, MCC at Pensacola, has announced that the regular weekly service of MCC * Pensacola for Sunday, July 12, will feature as guest speaker the Rev. Elder Freda Smith. Rev. Smith presently serves as Vice Moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and is pastor at MCC * Sacramento, California. A charismatic, dynamic Woman of God, Rev. Smith delivers the message of the saving grace of Jesus Christ for all people with such an anointing of the Holy Spirit that thousands of people around the world have been moved to lives of greater commitment under her ministry. Her message, entitled "Purple Grass," is one of the best known messages of modern times dealing with the subject of Homosexuality and Christianity. The service will be on Sunday, July 12, 11:00 A.M., MCC * Pensacola, 415 N. Alcaniz.

**Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
 On You**



**Metropolitan
 Community Church**

1600 CENTER STREET
 MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

During the next few months we will be seeing and hearing more about this National March on Washington. The first such event occurred in 1979 and drew 200,000 participants. It resulted in increased public awareness of the gay rights issue. Now, in this present time of setbacks, disease and increased homophobia in the face of the greatest challenge ever faced by the gay community, it is imperative that all Americans be reminded of the struggles that our community is up against. Organizations across the U.S. have begun making plans to have their town or city represented; at this writing (July 6) we know of no such plans in the Mobile gay community.

The advertisement accompanying this article has been taken from the Metro Community News, a publication of MCC at Pensacola. They evidently are in the stages of planning to attend -- do we need to get in touch with them? The communities are so close together that possibly people from both cities could travel together. The five-county Mobile metropolitan area has over 720,000 residents -- and if we use that standard (and questionable) 10% figure, that means 72,000 Gays live in Baldwin, Mobile, Harrison, Escambia and Jackson Counties. WE NEED TO HAVE MOBILE, ALABAMA REPRESENTED. We hope to have more information in the September newsletter. If you think you might be interested in attending, check with the Northwest Florida Pride Committee in Pensacola, or better yet, let's start some of our own organizing right here in our own community. (?)

**Let's meet
with 500,000 of our friends for a**

NATIONAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS

Washington, D.C.
October 11, 1987

IN SHORT, IT'S A MARCH FOR:

The legal recognition of lesbian and gay relationships

The repeal of all laws that make sodomy between consenting adults a crime

A Presidential order banning anti-gay discrimination by the federal government

Passage of the Congressional lesbian and gay rights bill

An end to discrimination against people with AIDS or those perceived to have AIDS

Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

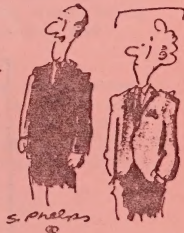
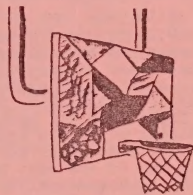


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32501-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	53
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHEES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells
1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
3 tablespoons instantized flour
1 cup cold milk or skim milk
2 tablespoons butter
2 teaspoons sherry
1 teaspoon brandy
1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
1 teaspoon prepared mustard
salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

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DIRECTORY

CHURCHES

COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE 476-9142
Street
ces: 7:00 PM
y: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)
sion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)
ILE CHAPTER 342-7891
NIVERSALIST CHURCH 342-6834
Shell Road
Services: 10:45 AM
holics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

DS FUND
Box 1491
, Alabama 36601
NATIVE
(Box 6956
, Alabama 36660
DDY PROGRAM
Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile 476-9142

NIGHT CLUBS

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215 Conti Street
CLUB PARK AVENUE 433-9103
7 South Joachim Street
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SOCIETY LOUNGE 433-8184
51 South Conception Street
CORRAL 433-9258
54 South Conception Street

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE (601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342
Jackson, Mississippi 39204
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P. O. Box 55913
Birmingham, Alabama 35255
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Pensacola, Florida 32507

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1517 U Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH (212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street
Suite 406
New York, New York 10019



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

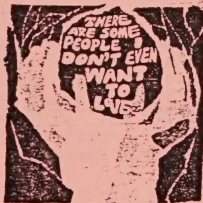
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

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At least, it's impossible for me.
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I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
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Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen,"
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
And to accept forgiveness from those I cannot love.

Can You make me Christ, God?
Can You?

Please, God, may others who have loved
Show me that power now to love the loveless
And the dying,
To forgive the unforgivable
And the lying,
Before it is too late.

Tie me to Christ,
And make me over again.

For Christ's sake, God!
For Christ's sake!

FOR
CHRIST'S SAKE

FROM THE EDITOR'S PEN

Recently I received a fund raising letter from the United States Olympic Committee. The letter informed me that my funds were badly needed to insure a successful 1988 Olympics. I put the letter aside, as all of my contributions these days go toward AIDS research or related causes. Events of the past week have made me revisit the fund-raising letter, and I am now ready to send a scathing letter back to the head of the U. S. Olympic Committee with carbon copies being sent to each of the justices who sit on the U. S. Supreme Court.

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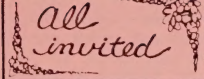
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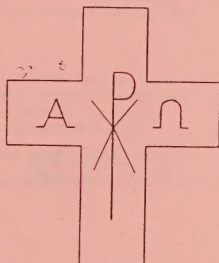
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Why Not Let GOD's Light Shine
On You



Metropolitan
Community Church

1600 CENTER STREET
MOBILE, ALABAMA

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY 7:00 P.M.

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Massive increase in funding for AIDS education, research, and patient care. Money for AIDS not for War.

Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

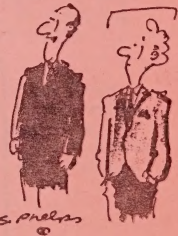
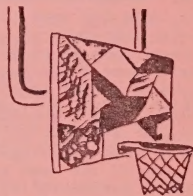


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an organization...begin planning now for your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee**
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32501-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)



"It's a compromise between those who wanted a traditional sanctuary and those who wanted a multi-purpose facility."

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	141
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	135
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	109
Dallas	680	Tennessee	91
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	81
Newark	891	Kentucky	77
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHÉES

24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells

- 1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
- 3 tablespoons instantized flour
- 1 cup cold milk or skim milk
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 teaspoons sherry
- 1 teaspoon brandy
- 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
- 1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
- 1 teaspoon prepared mustard
- salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
- 1 pint sour cream
- 1 teaspoon grated onion or onion powder
- 1 teaspoon minced chives
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice
- 4 dashes Tabasco sauce
- salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietitian from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
- July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
- July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
- July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
- August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
- August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
- August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
- August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."

Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00 CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE
SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

CHURCHES

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

NIGHT CLUBS

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	



The Metropolitan Community Church

AT MOBILE

1600 Center Street,

Mobile, Alabama,

Rev. MARGE RAGONA

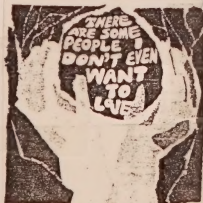
Pastor

(205) 476-9142

NEWSLETTER

A Prayer with Those Who Find It Hard to Love

My Lord,
I'm sure that You must realize by now
That You are asking me to do the impossible.
At least, it's impossible for me.
I can't love other people all the time.
I have trouble loving myself sometimes.
Other people are different
Or disgusting
Or dull
Or dirty.
And I hate dirty people.
They make me sick.
There are some people I don't even want to love
Or like
Or help
Or understand
Or go through the agony of forgiving.
They do things to annoy me.
Or they get on my nerves and gall me
Till they make me mad.
Others are really enemies.
Do You understand, God, my enemies?
How can I love people the way that You demand,
Giving myself at their expense,
Forgetting about my own needs to rescue them?
It's impossible.
And yet You say that people who do not love
Do not know God.
Don't I know You, God?
I want to know You.
If You can love me all the way,
If You can surrender Yourself into my hands,
If You can give Yourself to die for me,
Yes, if You can love like that,
You must be God, I think.
But I can't see You,
And I can't love,
And I can't seem to find the new day,
The new age when love is all victorious,
When all men know the Lord
Instinctively, as Jeremiah says.
Maybe I hate Jeremiah too.



I strive to pose a front,
A masquerade of holy love, kindness, and
Of community concern for others,
For the ugly and the idiot,
But I know the sham I have created,
And so do You.
You tell me all that Christ has done.
You say, "Look, there is love."
I see and say, "Amen."
But after that I fall.

For Christ's sake,
Help me.

I need another step,
I need a lift,
I need a power,
I need something more
Than this image of perfect suffering,
Of Christ the love of God
Hanging on my wall.

I need You, God, within me.
I need some love power driving me,
Driving me to love,
To forgive
And forgive
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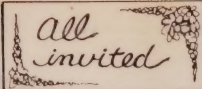
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Reproductive freedom. The right to control our own bodies, and an end to sexist oppression.

An end to racism in this country and apartheid in South Africa.

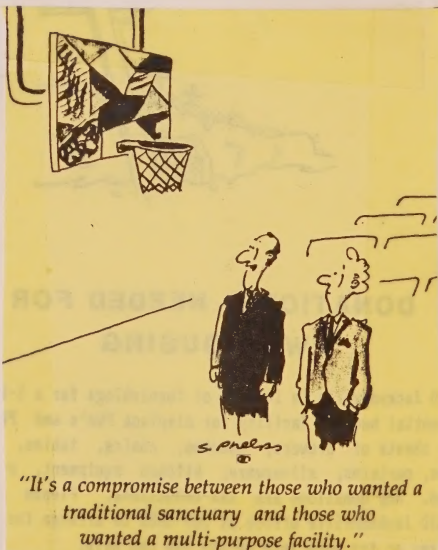


Imagine yourself there...
be counted, get involved

If you're the member of an
organization...begin planning now for
your busloads

Be assured of your visibility in D.C.

**NW FLA Gay
Pride Committee
PO Box 13364
Pensacola, FL
32591-3364
(Call 904-433-8528
for details)**



*"It's a compromise between those who wanted a
traditional sanctuary and those who
wanted a multi-purpose facility."*

37,019 and counting...
AIDS Cases as Reported by the CDC
as of June 15, 1987

Residence of Cases	Number of Cases	Residence of Cases	Number of Cases
New York State	10870	Missouri	352
New York City	9871	North Carolina	328
California	8348	Minnesota	316
San Francisco	3557	Arizona	221
Los Angeles	3246	Oregon	209
San Diego	431	Indiana	200
Florida	2504	Hawaii	182
Miami	1082	South Carolina	154
Ft. Lauderdale	440	Alabama	154
Texas	2367	Oklahoma	141
Houston	1178	Wisconsin	135
Dallas	680	Tennessee	109
New Jersey	2229	Nevada	91
Newark	891	Kentucky	81
Jersey City	436	Rhode Island	78
Washington, D.C. (Metro Area)	1097	Kansas	77
Illinois	977	Utah	63
Chicago	873	Arkansas	61
Pennsylvania	862	New Mexico	58
Philadelphia	699	Delaware	49
Massachusetts	800	Iowa	49
Boston	592	Mississippi	48
Georgia	769	Maine	45
Atlanta	606	Nebraska	31
District of Columbia	701	New Hampshire	31
Maryland	566	Alaska	28
Washington	455	West Virginia	27
Seattle	359	Vermont	13
Connecticut	439	Idaho	10
Louisiana	438	Montana	8
New Orleans	320	Virgin Islands	7
Virginia	429	Wyoming	7
Colorado	422	North Dakota	5
Denver	419	South Dakota	5
Puerto Rico	375	Guam	1
Ohio	360	Trust Territory	1
Michigan	352	Pediatric Cases (included in above)	512

Of these, 21,460 (approximately 58 percent) are dead.

When asked, "Why have you never been to MCC?", a typical response is, "Because nobody asked me to." Bring a friend to MCC next Sunday!

"It sells so good, I'm thinking about putting '538' on every room on the fifth floor."

Sheraton Hotel manager Russ Kimball, on the sudden popularity of Room 538, where Jim Bakker had his tryst with Jessica Hahn

"Pee-wee [Herman] stands for the new ascendant geek or the triumphant nerd—the type of person who in the '50s no one talked to but who is now the height of fashion."

Gary Painter, painter/cartoonist staffer on Pee-wee's Playhouse

"I haven't chosen her yet."

Vice President George Bush, in response to a question about what criteria he might use in selecting a running mate for his 1988 presidential campaign

"I've never been involved in wife swapping. I'm not a homosexual, and I've never been to a prostitute... We have eight or nine million dollars in royalties we never received [from the PTL television and theme-park ministry]."

Disgraced televangelist Jim Bakker, unseated from his ministry after it was revealed that he had had sex with Jessica Hahn, his secretary, and subsequently paid her blackmail

"Kitchen Tips" for this month features a couple of selections which will serve well either as hors d'oeuvres or as a light meal. Enjoy!

DEVILED LOBSTER BOUCHÉES

- 24 very small hors d'oeuvre-size
patty shells
1 9-oz. pkg. frozen lobster tails
3 tablespoons instantized flour
1 cup cold milk or skim milk
2 tablespoons butter
2 teaspoons sherry
1 teaspoon brandy
1 1/2 teaspoon lemon juice
1/2 teaspoon anchovy paste
1 teaspoon prepared mustard
salt, pepper and cayenne

If necessary, remove insides of patty shells with a small knife to create cavities for the lobster. Cook lobster, following directions on package. Drain. Cut meat into small cubes. Put flour and milk into saucepan, stir until flour dissolves, add butter, and simmer until sauce thickens. Add lobster, sherry, brandy, lemon, paste, mustard, salt and pepper to taste. Add a very small dash of cayenne. Mix well. Fill shells with

lobster mixture. Serve at once! If not served immediately, place on a baking sheet. At serving time, place sheet in a preheated oven (375° F) for about 5 minutes, or until heated through. Makes approx. 24 servings.

SMOKED OYSTER DIP

- 1 3 2/3-oz. can smoked oysters
1 pint sour cream
1 teaspoon grated onion or
onion powder
1 teaspoon minced chives
2 teaspoons lemon juice
4 dashes Tabasco sauce
salt and pepper

Drain oysters very well. Discard oil. Put all ingredients into a blender. Blend at high speed (but do not liquify) about 40-60 seconds, or until oysters are thoroughly devastated. Makes approx. 8 servings.

MOBILE AIDS FUND ASSISTS BUDDY PROGRAM

Recently the Buddy Program had occasion to ask the Mobile AIDS Fund for financial assistance for a dying patient at U.S.A. Help was immediately forthcoming. We thank the bar owners and everyone who contributes to the Mobile AIDS Fund. When someone needed you, you were there!

REMINDER

BUDDIES TO BE TRAINED IN NUTRITION/GRIEF COUNSELING

When your buddy dies, how will you take it? To give the Buddy Program help with coping with their own grief over the loss of a buddy, Sue Rollins, nurse-thanatologist will be the monthly trainer in July. Also speaking will be a dietitian from Springhill Hospital who will be speaking about dietary control of diarrhea. All buddies are asked to attend at 7:30. New buddies are asked to come at 7:00 for orientation in the program and for training in confidentiality. (7/20-MONDAY)

WANTS AND NEEDS LIST:

Chux, adult diapers (medium and large). Any used desks, office chairs, recliners or comfortable easy chairs for the Buddy Building at 1600 Center Street. Call us if you need them delivered.

B	I	N	G	O
8	24	43	55	72
12	16	38	52	68
7	27	44	60	75
4	21	35	54	73
15	30	45	56	69

EVERY MONDAY NIGHT -- 8:00 P.M.
ROTATING BETWEEN THE LOCAL BARS
\$1 PER CARD PROCEEDS GO TO THE
MOBILE AIDS FUND

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CHARTER PINES RECOVERY CENTER TO SPONSOR FREE LECTURE SERIES

Located at 251 Cox Street in Mobile, the Charter Pines Recovery Center is a center for the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction. A series of free lectures will be given, all beginning at 7:00 P.M. The speakers and their topics:

- July 7: Donna Alexander, a local family counselor, "Tough Love I: Taking a Stand"
 - July 14: Tony Barfield, primary counselor at Charter Pines, "Tough Love II: Making it Work"
 - July 21: Walt LaMasters, program director at Charter Pines, "Process of Addiction and the Family"
 - July 28: Dr. John Davis, Mobile clinical psychologist, "Defiant Behavior in Adolescents"
 - August 4: Curtis Glisson, a local counselor, "What Are Your Children Listening To?"
 - August 11: Mike Sullivan, counselor at Charter Pines, "Alcoholism - A Treatable Disease"
 - August 18: Walt LaMasters, "Denial - The Mainspring of Addiction"
 - August 25: Ansley Quinlain, a local family counselor, "Addiction - A Family Illness."
- Further information may be obtained by calling (205)432-8811.

THANKS TO THREE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY FOR \$100.00 CONTRIBUTIONS DURING GAY PRIDE MONTH. LOVE YOU ALL FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING TO HELP.

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA MEDICAL SCHOOL SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Buddy Program has been asked to contact the community to see if 40 people would be willing to assist with a research project applicable to AIDS research.

USAMC is doing a study of the genetic connection with AIDS, and needs 20 healthy positives and 20 healthy negatives (seropositive and seronegative) from any high risk group. (That's us!) If you would like to be part of this study, please call us at 476-9142 for further information.

TOTAL CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE ACCORDED EVERY VOLUNTEER. NO NAMES WILL BE USED. YOU WILL RECEIVE A NUMBER AND WILL KEEP THAT NUMBER FOR THE LENGTH OF THE STUDY.

If we all help, maybe someone will come up with an answer. Please help USAMC find some answers by assisting with this study. Call us for more information.



FRANK CALLED TO INVITE YOU TO A PARTY.
HE SAID THE CHIFFON WITH THE
SPAGHETTI STRAPS WILL BE FINE...
WILL YOU PLEASE EXPLAIN THAT?

DIRECTORY

CHURCHES

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE	476-9142
1600 Center Street	
Sunday Services: 7:00 PM	
Bible Study: Thursdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
Rap Discussion Group: Wednesdays 7:30 PM (call for location)	
DIGNITY, MOBILE CHAPTER	342-7891
UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH	342-6834
6345 Old Shell Road	
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM	
Gay Alcoholics Anonymous: Fridays 8:00 PM	

COMMUNITY SERVICE GROUPS

MOBILE AIDS FUND	
P. O. Box 1491	
Mobile, Alabama 36601	
THE ALTERNATIVE	
P. O. Box 6956	
Mobile, Alabama 36660	
AIDS BUDDY PROGRAM	
c/o Metropolitan Community Church at Mobile	476-9142

NIIGHT CLUBS

TROOPERS	438-9139
215 Conti Street	
CLUB PARK AVENUE	433-9103
7 South Joachim Street	
GOLDEN ROD	433-9175
219 Conti Street	
SOCIETY LOUNGE	433-8184
51 South Conception Street	
CORRAL	433-9258
54 South Conception Street	

REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

MISSISSIPPI GAY ALLIANCE	(601)355-7495
P. O. Box 8342	
Jackson, Mississippi 39204	
ALABAMA FORUM	
P. O. Box 55913	
Birmingham, Alabama 35255	
PARENTS OF GAYS	(904)492-0742
P. O. Box 34479	
Pensacola, Florida 32507	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE	(202)332-6483
1517 U Street, N.W.	
Washington, D.C. 20009	
AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR AIDS RESEARCH	(212)333-3118
40 West 57th Street	
Suite 406	
New York, New York 10019	

Mobile, AL 36604

(205) 476-9142

November 8, 1987

ANNOUNCEMENTS

0, God, you are my God whom I seek; for you

my flesh pines and my soul thirsts like the
earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

zed toward you in the sanctuary to see your glory,

ness is a greater good than life; my lips
You,

ess you while I live; lifting up my hands,
on your name.

ches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied
ant lips my mouth shall praise you.

er you upon my couch, and through the night meditated on you;

my help, and in the shadow of your wings I

KNING HAS BROKEN 143

SCRIPTURE: 1 Thessalonians 5:8-11

Aimos 3:21-24
 Matthew 25:14-30

Salvation

Lee Harris

THY FAITHFULNESS

FIFTHS AND OFFERINGS
 Tho But Thine Owm (Vs 1)
 110

(1) The first part of the document is a list of names and addresses of the members of the committee, which is headed by the name of the committee.

THE FAMILY OF GOD

73

ION: O God, no matter what the plight external, piecemeal, poor, and plundered by our sin

torment, making us fearful within and evil
and the stranger. Except for thee, we are

leaves. 0 ingather us to thy table and feed

name, who taught us to pray saying, "Our Go-

name, and we pray for you, O
your name. Your dominion come, your will be
done in heaven. Give us this day our daily

bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the test, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the power, the reign and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

L: God be with you. P: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts. P: We lift them up to God.
L: Let us give thanks. P: It is right to give God thanks

and praise.

SANCTUS: Holy, holy, holy God of power and grace. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed

is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD/THE BLESSING OF THE CUP

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH: Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

CLOSING HYMN: OUR GOD IS LIKE AN EAGLE 43

BENEDICTION: L: God go with you. P: And also with you.

FASTING OF THE FACE: in peace or God go with you.
And also with you.

Offering 11-1-87	254.12	Attendance	38
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TUESDAY: No Bible Study. Pastor will be in Houston.

WEDNESDAY: ndp: 20 ways to leave your lover

THURSDAY: No Deacon's Class. ACOA, see John for location.

FRIDAY: Potluck and Movie Night. Movie is "La Cage aux Folles". Bring a dish and \$3.00. Monor supports the church.

bring a dish and \$3.00. Money supports the church.

SATURDAY: YACHTS meets 7:30 P.M. at the church.

SUNDAY: New Members, 5:00 P.M.

Remember to bring canned goods, etc., appropriate for Thanksgiving baskets for our Buddies. We will be giving turkeys, etc

to Buddies just before Thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING OPEN HOUSE: At the church, for all of us. Bring a dish Thanksgiving day. Turkeys will be provided. Come and eat

and enjoy.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE

4500 Bit and Spur Road

Mobile, Alabama 36608

Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor

(205) 476 9142

SINGSPARATION

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: L: How great is the goodness, O God, which you

have in store for those in awe of you.

P: Which you show toward those who take refuge in you.

L: You hide us in the shelter of your presence from the plots of evil doers.

P: You screen them within your abode from the strife of evil tongues.

L: Blessed be God whose wondrous kindness has been shown me, which has been a fortified city for me.

P: Once I said in my anguish, "I am cut off from your sight;" yet you heard the sound of my pleas when I cried out to you.

L: Love God, all you faithful ones! God keeps those who are constant, but more than requites those who act proudly.

P: Take courage and be stouthearted, all you all you who hope in God.

OPENING HYMN: A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Printed

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE: Acts 7:55-60

I Peter 2:1-10

John 14:1-14

SERMON: If You Really Knew Me...

Rev. Ragona

HYMN: Because Christ Lives

Printed

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS/MEDITATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN: Holy, Holy

Printed

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: O God, we move through the world with blurred vision, seeing things upside down, crooked, and contrary.

Our main interest is self-interest, and because we see the world

through ourselves our molehills become mountains and our mountains molehills. We scratch ourselves on the briars of self-pity and refuse to see the climbing forests of your grace. You, who are the

true light, enlighten us and keep us from stumbling in our own dark. Raise up our heads and open our eyes that we might indeed see the

mountain which is God from which comes our help. Teach us to live

in your grace, to give love among all people, to bring joy to the

places of mourning, and to realize that God sings in our hearts; in

the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying, "Our God in heaven, holy is your name, your dominion come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the test, but deliver us from evil; for yours is the power the reign and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

L: God be with you. P: And also with you.

I: Lift up your hearts. P: We lift them up to God.

L: Let us give thanks. P: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS: Holy, holy, holy God of power and grace; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD/THE BLESSING OF THE CUP

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH: Christ has died, Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

CLOSING HYMN: Forward Through the Ages

Printed

BENEDICTION: L: God go with you. P: And also with you.

PASSING OF THE PEACE: The peace of God be with you.

And also with you.

Our guests tonight are Robert Nicholson Earle and his mother. Present is the runner in the American Run to End Aids. Welcome them, please and thank them for the work they are doing.

MONDAY: Bldg Training. at Springhill Hospital Prof. Bldg 5th Floor. 7:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY: Rap. 7:30 Self-Disclosure why Am I afraid to tell you who I really am?

THANK YOU RON H. FOR THE WORK ON THE NEWSLETTER, to Joe for distribution, and Vicki for graphics.

THURSDAY: One more night on the Hymnal. This time we will be numbering. 7:30

We will have a functional townmeeting this week.

Deposited 01 (Citizens)

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mobile, AL. 36604

1600 Center St.

Rev. Marge Ragna, Pastor

205 476-9142

9th Sunday in Pentecost

July 26, 1987

SINCPARATION

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: L: Teach me, O God, your way that I may walk in your truth:

P: Direct my heart that it may fear your name.

L: I will give thanks to you, O my God, with all my heart,

P: And I will glorify your name forever.

L: Great has been your kindness toward me:

P: You have rescued me from the depths of the nether world.

OPENING HYMN: Church in the Wildwood

90, v. 1 & 3

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE:

Isaiah 44:6-8
Romans 8:26-27

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

SERMON: Weeds or Wheat?

Harold McInnis

HYMN: Love Lifted Me

66, v. 2 & 3

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WORSHIP WITH OUR LITTHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN: The Old Rugged Cross

31, v. 1 & 3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Come unto us, O God, and find and enlighten and renew us, one and all. Where we have gone from thee, lead us back to love. Where we live in darkness take the clouds from our eyes and the heaviness from our souls. Where we wait out our days with fear or hate or boredom, refresh us with such mercy as will turn us again to honor thee in the visible world and to rejoice in thee among the peoples of the world. And put to use whatever gifts we have to build up, to reconcile, and to enjoy; through Jesus Christ, our Lord who taught us to pray saying "Our God in heaven, holy is your name. Your dominion come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the test, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the power, the

the reign and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

L: God be with you

P: And also with you

L: Lift up your hearts

P: We lift them up to God

L: Let us give thanks

P: It is right to give God thanks and praise

SANCTUS: Holy, holy, holy God of power and grace. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD/THE BLESSING OF THE CUP

THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

CLOSING HYMN: He Lives

216, All verses

BENEDICTION: L: God go with you.

P: And also with you.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE: The peace of God be with you. And also with you.

THANKS TO SUZANNE & friend: Check out the new furniture in the conference room to thank Suzanne yourself.

THANKS TO CHARLIE & TRUCK for moving the furniture. He had excellent help from Dean, Harold, David A. and Roger DON'T THE GROUNDS ALWAYS LOOK MARVELOUS!!! SAY THANKS TO Claudia and David A.

NEW MEMBERS CLASSES: Next Sunday, 5PM at 1600 Center St. All are welcome, whether you intend to become a member or not. Our seemingly disorderly, at times, in fact, does have structure.

AIDS RESEARCH AT USA MEDICAL ----- WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!! Wilda James will accommodate us by scheduling times at 1600 Center St., the Pastor's home, wherever. You may use my name and be Shirley, Rock Hudson, whomever. NEEDS 20 HIGH-RISKS PERSONS IN THE POSITIVE & NEGATIVE CLASSIFICATIONS.

RAP GROUPS START IN ANOTHER WEEK. Plan your schedules accordingly.

THANK'S to each of you for being there for me while Rev. Marge was at Conference. Love You!!!!!! *Marge*

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH AT MOBILE
1600 Center Street
Rev. Marge Ragona, Pastor
Mobile, AL. 36604
(205) 476-9142

3rd Sunday in Dominiontide
SINGSPRATION
WELCOME
September 13, 1987
ANNOUNCEMENTS

CML. TO WORSHIP: L: God is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

P: God is my life's refuge; of whom shall I be afraid?
L: When evildoers come at me to devour my flesh, my foes and my enemies themselves stumble and fall.

P: Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear; though war be waged upon me, even then will I trust.
L: One thing I ask of God; this I seek: To dwell in the house of God all my days.

P: There let me gaze upon the loveliness of God and contemplate God's temple.
L: I will seek sanctuary in God's abode in the day of trouble; I will be concealed in the shelter of God's tabernacle.

P: God will set me upon a rock; even now my head is held high above my enemies on every side.
L: I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy in God's tent; P: I will sing and chant praise to God, our God.

OPENING HYMN: O God, Our Help in Ages Past
READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 55:6-12
Phillipians 1:21-30
Matthew 1:1-16
Printed

SERMON: The Emperor's New Clothes
HYMN: Come, Holy Spirit
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
WORSHIP WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY: We Give Thee But Thine Own (Vs.1)
OFFERTORY PRAYER
Rev. Ragona

COMMUNION HYMN: Bread of Life
PRAYER OF CONFESSION: Gracious God, we admit that our sins are many; some we can see, some we cannot see, some we do not want to see. Each of us has our own sins, yet we share in the sin of the world. Sometimes our sins imprison us, and we yearn to be free. Sometimes they are heavy and do not allow us to run to you. Sometimes they deaden us even before death. Sometimes they are shallow and unholy. and keep us from even seeking you. protect us from all times and places that destroy and deceive.

Move our wills to see the deep being of yourself. Give us grace to show the justice and mercy to all people that we would ask for ourselves. Make us whole again that we might in

bring wholeness to others. In the name of Jesus who taught us to pray, saying, "Our God in heaven, holy is your name. Your dominion come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Do not bring us to the test, but deliver us from evil; for yours is the power, the reign and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

L: God be with you.
L: Lift up your hearts.
L: Let us give thanks.
P: And also with you.
P: We lift them up to God.
P: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

SANCTUS: Holy, holy, holy God of power and grace; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God. Hosanna in the highest.

THE BREAKING OF BREAD-THE BLESSING OF THE CUP
THE MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

CLOSING HYMN: Now On Land and Sea Descending
BENEDICTION: L: God go with you. P: And also with you.
THE PASSING OF THE PEACE: The peace of God go with you. And also with you.

+ + + + +
We thank everyone for their purchases, donations and efforts last night. The Buddy Program is \$292.75 richer today. God bless you all.

WEDNESDAY: Rap, "Confronting Anger Successfully." 7:30 p.m.
THURSDAY: Adult Children of Alcoholics. Nancy Devaney, Ph.D. will be present to introduce this group which will help people deal with the remainders in their lives of their parent alcoholism. Open to everyone interested, concerned, or needing this group.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY: Alabama AIDS FORUM for community-based organizations working with PWAs in Alabama, in Montgomery. The pastor, Shirley, and others will be in Montgomery for this meeting. Anyone interested in going, please see us.

SATURDAY: YACHTS meets at the church, 7:30 p.m. All persons under 25 are encouraged to attend.

MONDAY, SEPT. 21, Buddy Training. Dr. Kent Robinson, neurologist, will be talking about dementia in the AIDS patient. Buddy Program volunteers are encouraged to attend.

The week of Sept. 21, Jim Ferels of the National Aids Network will be in Mobile. Pray for that visit and its benefits.

